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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

# INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

25X1A

COUNTRY

Romania

DATE DISTR. 25 Jul 51

SUBJECT

Communist Police Controls/  
Indoctrination of Workers

NO. OF PAGES 2

PLACE  
ACQUIRED

NO. OF ENCLS.  
(LISTED BELOW)

DATE  
ACQUIRED BY SC

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SUPPLEMENT TO  
REPORT NO.

DATE OF INFORM

1. The Romanian Communists, who were very few in number before World War II, have now managed to develop a firm control over the whole country. Their main weapon is the police force, which has been greatly expanded in recent years. In the city of Constanta, for example, where there were only 800 or so police before World War II and less than one thousand in 1945, there are now nearly 15 thousand police. Within the police force as a whole, the secret police is particularly tough. There is a common saying that gives a comparison: "Better a year in jail than two hours with the secret police."

2. Any sort of a brush with the police is likely to result in the suspect being required to write a meticulously detailed "autobiography" for the police files. If the suspect is picked up again, he must again write his "autobiography." Should there be any discrepancy between these accounts, the suspect is in real trouble.

3. [REDACTED]

4. One technique of police control in Romania is travel control. The system, in summary, permits anyone on the edges of the nation to travel freely into the interior but not the other way about. [REDACTED] travelled from Constanta to Bucharest and anyone in Constanta could go to Bucharest and return without difficulty. But a

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Bucharest man had to get a permit to go to Constanta and had to give the police a date when he would return. Such permits were checked at points along the railroad. Similarly, a man from Temesvar could go to Bucharest without difficulty but not the other way around.

5. Another control is the secret police "blackboard." If a suspect's name gets "on the blackboard", he is out of luck as far as jobs go. He may find work for awhile, but as soon as his name is checked at his new place of employment and it is discovered that he's "on the blackboard", he is fired.

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6. Besides such police controls, the Communists devote a great deal of effort to the indoctrination of the workers. The factory workers' eight-hour day runs from 0700 to 1530 and after that their time is free until 1700. Then "school" begins and attendance is not voluntary. [REDACTED] however, there was a choice between "first aid" school and "political" school. The former was concerned with civilian defense - how to behave in an air raid and so on. There were various "courses" in the "political" school, among them a Russian language course, a course on trade unions, even a "singing class" where the workers learned the various Communist songs. The instructors in these courses were Party workers, many of them nearly illiterate themselves and no more educated than their pupils. Discussion groups in such courses could last indefinitely into the night with some unlettered Party worker repeating parrot-like whatever he had just been taught himself.

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